Washington, Jan 1st 1863

Dear Mother I received your letter the 29th and was glad to hear you are all well here is a great time here to day, the White House was opened for visitors from 11 till 2 and the President was there to shake hands with all that come there was a great many Officers and privates and all the rest of the people that was any thing on a shake as for me I did not go for fear I would jerk old Abe off of his legs for when I get a hold of any Body I hold on to him like death to a dead nigger they shook old Abe most to pieces, I guess he was glad when they shut the House up tho I was on guard the old year out and the new year in. from 10 to 12 there was a brass Band out playing

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last night that could beat anything I ever Seen or heared. the weather is warm as Summer here Tuesday Night at half past five a fire Broke out in the City the alarm was given shortly after and at 6 I went on guard and the fire was Raging and the flames went as high as from 75 to 100 feet and before it could be checked it Burned Down to the ground the Bigest fire I ever saw the Loss was $200 it was Fords Theatre the second time it has been burned there was two Privates Houses Burned with it there has been Four or 5 fires since we have been here That was all a forgery about the 150 leaving it was all the talk here some time ago but not now the nights are cold and frosty here at present The foreign Ministers were the first to shake hands with

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the President the Officers next and soon About that Money of Mine that Taylor has it is all right I think Com K was Mustered in wednesday for Pay But we do not Know how Soon we will get it we had 4 or 5 turkeys for the new years gift but the men were most all on guard so we did not have the turkeys but will have them for dinner to day (Jan the 2nd) so that will do as well or as far as I am conserned a little better we had some turkey for our dinner that one of the boys in the next tent from ours Mc has got his Box it come all safte I wish you all a happy new year

all the Boys are well

so good By

from Bold Soger W.A.C

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I dont Know when we will get one
Pay the Paymaster went to pay the Army
of the Potomac off and we dont when
he will get Back

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